THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

September 20, 1979

AM
10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: October 23, 1979
November 26, 1979

B. Approval of July 24, 1979 minutes.

C. Publication of the "Sixteenth Street Architecture."

D. Appointment of David Yerkes to the Board of Consultants for Old Georgetown.

E. Georgetown Waterfront Park. Development and status report.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

*1. CFA 9/20/79 - 3, RESUBMISSION-Pershing Park, design development, kiosk location and comfort facilities. 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

*2. CFA 9/20/79 - 4, RESUBMISSION-Western Plaza, kiosk location and design. 13-14th Streets and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

3. CFA 9/20/79 - 5, Canadian Chancery, temporary site landscaping, John Marshall Place and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

* Has been reviewed previously by the Commission of Fine Arts.

B. District of Columbia Government

*1. CFA 9/20/79 - 2, Department of General Services, New Municipal Office Building. 3rd and D Streets, N.W., Judiciary Square.

2. CFA 9/20/79 - 7, Department of General Services, Fire Station #11. 14th and Newton Streets, N.W.

*3. CFA 9/20/79 - 1, Department of Transportation, Chain Bridge, redecking and railing replacement designs.

C. Department of State

*1. CFA 9/20/79 - 9, RESUBMISSION-Chancery of Yemen, International Center, final design development. Van Ness and Connecticut Avenue, N.W.

D. Department of the Treasury

1. CFA 9/20/79 - 12, Grant Wood Medal.

2. CFA 9/20/79 - 13, Ira Eaker Medal.

E. Department of the Navy

1. CFA 9/20/79 - 10, U.S. Naval Observatory. Overlaying an existing perimeter road and development of new driveway. Calvert Street and Observatory Circle.

2. CFA 9/20/79 - 11, Southeast Federal Center. Replace steam tunnel with overhead lines.

F. Office of Management and Budget. Legislation.

1. CFA 9/20/79 - 14, H.R. 3507. Review of report by Interior Department on H.R. 3507. To expand the boundaries of the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site to include certain historic buildings, (including the Keith-Albee Theater building, the National Metropolitan Bank building, Rhodes Tavern, and the Old Ebbitt Grill).

G. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission

*1. CFA 9/20/79 - 15, FDR Memorial, revised design and program. West Potomac Park.

H. District of Columbia Department of Housing and Community Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

*a. O.G. 79-118, 2831 M Street, N.W. Proposed new office/apartment/retail building.

*b. O.G. 79-126, 3277 M Street, N.W. New residential/retail complex, revisions to approved design.

*c. O.G. 79-132, 3222 M Street, N.W. Construct two bridges across the C & O Canal between Grace Street and M Street. Construct and landscape plaza areas on opening in existing stone wall.

*d. O.G. 79-133, 1630-1636 35th Street, N.W. To construct townhouse development.

*e. O.G. 79-145, 1001 34th Street, N.W. To construct apartment building and garage as per drawings.

f. APPENDIX 1

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 79-82, 2309 Calvert Street, N.W. To place a sign on front of building.

b. S.L. 79-101, 2130 Cathedral Avenue, N.W. To construct a residence with a contemporary style of architecture which satisfies both the clients as well as acknowledging the integrity of the surrounding architecture.

c. APPENDIX 2

APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 79-97 HPA. 79-157	2733-39 O Street, N.W. Elliot Epstein	Remove existing 1st floor windows and replace with new fixed panes same size.

ACTION: Application returned to applicant. The CFA requested additional information on 6/12/79 but received no further information.

O.G. 79-100 HPA. 79-182	2908 O Street, N.W. O Street Associates	Repairs and alterations as per plans.

ACTION: Returned without approval. Additional drawings requested 11 July 1979, not supplied.

O.G. 79-103	1409 29th Street, N.W. Jerome Spingarn	Residential addition above existing garage, as according to drawing.

ACTION: Returned without approval. Additional information requested 6/12/79, but not supplied.

O.G. 79-113 HPA. 79-275	3045 K Street, N.W. Georgetown Inland West Corp.	Razed building.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. See file O.G. 79-113.

APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 79-114 HPA. 79-278	1623 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Southland Corporation	Install one 18" x 24" double face plywood sign white/black to read: 7/Eleven Food Store. Pole sign.

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 79-120 HPA. 79-295	2914 P Street, N.W. Mr. and Mrs. Livingston Biddle	New kitchen layout, install bathroom and kitchenette in basement, frame two dressing rooms and two additional doorways in basement, enlarge window opening at basement front and install new windows, some new lighting throughout house.

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 79-127 HPA. 79-312	1690 32nd Street, N.W. Adele Leslie Wells	Install new sliding glass doors to replace 1st floor rear windows-basement window, extend existing porch to full width of rear of house. Renovate to central air conditioner, install new interior stairs, remodel 1st floor and basement storage.

ACTION: Issue permit.

APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 79-128 HPA. 79-318	1600 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Mary Helen Sherwood	Replace existing building to office.

ACTION: Issue permit. Recommend that structure be painted a warm grey medium color.

O.G. 79-129 HPA. 79-322	3001 P Street, N.W. Joseph Schenick	Remove 2nd and 3rd floor porch floors and railing. Replace with steel frame floor and railing, same size and appearance.

ACTION: Approved based on statement by owner that certain conditions will be upheld. See file for details. O.G. 79-129.

O.G. 79-130 HPA. 79-340	3230 Reservoir Road, N.W. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Loy	Construct a private residential swimming pool.

ACTION: NOT IN FINE ARTS JURISDICTION.

O.G. 79-131 HPA. 79-349	3409 R Street, N.W. Hadley Residence	Renovation of exterior and interior of house.

ACTION: Issue permit. New clerestory overlooking R Street shall be pulled back 1'-0" from ridge.

APPENDIX 1

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 79-135 HPA. 79-353	1321 27th Street, N.W. Fernando Ottati	Exterior work, windows and chiminey.

ACTION: Issue permit for double-hung windows with vertical 2 over 2 sash. See drawing.

O.G. 79-136 HPA. 79-362	3341 Dent Place, N.W. D.E. Polk	Alteration of facade. Shutters and detail work.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Add-on trim not recommended.

O.G. 79-137 HPA. 79-370	3251 Prospect Street, N.W. Doggett's Parking	Single faced sign, back of building restriction line and flat against.

ACTION: Issue permit. Limit sign to existing masonry opening. The lettering for the words "IN" will be green, "OUT" will be red, both in smaller but similar type face to remainder of sign.

O.G. 79-142 HPA. 79-391	1737 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Miller & Arney Antiques	Restoration of exterior bays to originally intended height and appearance. Renovation of all doors and window frames using anadized aluminum. original brick to be re-used.

ACTION: Issue permit. North corner window on Wisconsin.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
O.G. 79-143 HPA. 79-401	1311 29th Street, N.W. Larry Busching	Interior alterations and remodeling, addition of room over existing 1s story, enclosing existing walled court, removal of existing metal stair on exterior.

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 79-144 HPA. 79-___	1729 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. District of Columbia National Bank	Removal of existing letters. Application of cut-out acrylic letters stud mounted into brick. See attached sketches and photos. Plus logo.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Character of existing sign should be retained.

O.G. 79-148 HPA. 79-399	2820 N Street, N.W. Thomas Brooks	Construct rear deck, replace front stair.

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 79-154 HPA. 79-453	1631 35th Street, N.W. Norman K. Baxter	Replace painted 6' board fence with 7' redwood fence.

ACTION: Issue permit. Replacement fence to match existing fence. Recommend supporting frame be on inside of fencing.

APPENDIX 2

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 79-78	201 E Street, N.E. 201 E Street Corporation	New sign, (temporary)

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary sign. (Ninety days only.)

S.L. 79-83	318 2nd Street, S.E. Carl Wineberg	Install 2 stockade fences 6' x 6' high.

ACTION: Issue permit.

S.L. 79-84	501 13th Street, N.W. 501 13th Street Corporation	Office sign and doorway ornamentation painted onto existing stucco facade of the Warner Theater Building.

ACTION: Issue permit.

S.L. 79-85	1903 Kenyon Street, N.W. Roger A. Morrison	Stockade (wood) fence, 6' high.

ACTION: Issue permit.

APPENDIX 2

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

September 20, 1979

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 79-86	312 7th Street, N.W. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation	Temporary chain link fence.

ACTION: Issue permit.

S.L. 79-89	1776 G Street, N.W. Jefferson Federal	2 signs 1. 18" x 14'6" and 1. 18" x 11'6" as per drawings.

ACTION: Issue permit.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

MEETING

20 September 1979

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman Hon. Frederick D. Nichols Hon. Kevin E. Roche Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
National Capitol Planning Commission:	Mr. Robert Cosby
House District Committee:	Mr. Nelson Rimensnyder
Staff Present:	Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson Mr. John A. Vaughan

1. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of the next meetings were set at Tuesday, October 23, and Tuesday, December 4, 1979. No meeting was scheduled for November. The Commission agreed to have a draft 1980 meeting schedule showing meetings earlier in the month, probably during the second week.

B. Approval of the July 24, 1979 minutes, passed.

C. Publication of the new Commission of Fine Arts book, "Sixteenth Street Architecture, Vol. 1." The Secretary indicated that the book had been given preliminary distribution with very favorable results. The Commission passed unanimously a resolution proposed by Mr. Jacobs, commending the Staff, particularly Mrs. Kohler and Mr. Carson who had been principal authors of the work.

D. The Secretary reported that the Appointment of Mr. David Yerkes, FAIA, to the Georgetown Board of Architectural Consultants was official with the resignation of Ms. Anne Vytlacil, AIA.

E. Georgetown Waterfront Park was discussed by the Secretary who indicated that a number of community associations had endorsed the all-park concept along the Georgetown Waterfront and that Congressional support was growing. He indicated that Congressman Stark, a member of the House District Committee, was making a presentation in favor of the all-park proposal before the Committee of One Hundred later in the day.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

1. CFA 9/20/79-3*, Resubmission, Pershing Park, design development including kiosk location, landscaping, and briefing on the fountain area design progress. The Assistant Secretary introduced Mr. Charles Guelli of the PADC Staff and indicated that many of the materials to be shown the Commission had either been delivered during the start of the meeting or late in the previous day and that the Staff had not been able to review, study or otherwise organize the presentation. The Chairman stated that this would not be permitted in the future both in terms of the efficiency of the meeting and adequate public notice.

Mr. Guelli showed the Commission a site plan with a circular kiosk with food service on grade level and comfort/maintenance facilities below ground. The Commission's previous disapproval of this had been based on a prior design of a large oval shape which penetrated the tree line along Pennsylvania Avenue across from the Willard's proposed entrance court. The Commission felt that the new location which avoided breaking the tree line was much better, but asked for more details of the exterior appearance and a model prior to any approval.

Mr. Guelli introduced Mr. Paul Freidburg and Mr. Jerome Lindsey who were consultants for the Pershing Park Design. The Commission had already approved the concept of "cupping" the space with a berm on the south, east and west sides of the park. There were to be water falls and a pool with skating facilities centrally located, and a memorial to General Pershing on the southeast corner of the plaza. During previous reviews the Commission asked that the fountain element at the west end of the park be greatly simplified. Since it was apparent that the design was moving exactly opposite in direction, it was agreed the Chairman would speak to PADC officials and discuss the Commission's serious reservations about the present scheme.

EXHIBIT A

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* Note: This CFA number refers to the date of the Commission Meeting plus a staff assigned number for reference between these minutes, their index, and the permanent archival case files.

2. CFA 9/20/79-4, Resubmission Western Plaza with kiosk location and design, 13-14th Streets and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mr. Guelli told the Members that he and the consultants for Western Plaza had several meetings with the Commission Staff and Chairman and had been able to eliminate some of the problems with inscription letter style and size commented on previously by the Commission. The Chairman confirmed that more consistent sizes and a simple serif letter had improved the design.

Western Plaza material samples were presented and approved with the addition of Bluestone to represent the water elements within the L'Enfant Plan. With the exception of the water representation the Commission had approved the materials at its July 1979 meeting.

Mr. Guelli also presented the designs for a small kiosk to be located opposite the District Building entrance at the southwestern corner of Western Plaza. The proposal included a curved conical roof, 11 feet in diameter, over a 9 foot square kiosk. The roof material would be lead-coated copper, the same color as the planting urns proposed for the perimeter of the plaza. The Commission unanimously approved the designs.

EXHIBIT A

3. CFA 9/20/79-5, Canadian Chancery, temporary site landscaping, John Marshall Place and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mr. Jerry Pryztup of the PADC Staff presented the temporary landscaping scheme which is to be in place for about a year between demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of the new Canadian Chancery. The design showed informal planting massed to the rear of the site, as well as toward the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and John Marshall Place. The middle part of the site would be sodded. The Commission unanimously approved the design as an interim measure.

EXHIBIT A

B. District of Columbia Government

1. CFA 9/20/79-2, Department of General Services, New Municipal Office Building, 3rd and D Streets, N.W., Judiciary Square. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model showing the proposed full-block structure which conformed to special zoning setbacks and ground plane arrangements in conformance with other agency requirements. He also showed a design for a building for Georgetown University on the opposite side of the square which the Commission had approved several months before. Both followed the design guidelines for the Judiciary Square master plan. The proposal for the Municipal Building was for a limestone structure with brick paving for the sidewalk, arcade and the subway entrance near the front of the structure.

Mr. Pavlick of the District Department of General Services indicated that the building had the approval of the District Government and would provide for a number of District agencies as well as considerable unassigned space. He then introduced the architects, including Mr. Randall Vosbeck. The Commission examined the materials and reported to Mr. Vosbeck that they were unanimously approving the designs, with the recommendation that the landscaping for the Municipal Office Building and the Georgetown University Building on the opposite side of Judiciary Square be coordinated.

EXHIBIT B

2. CFA 9/20/79-9, Department of General Services, Fire Station #11, 14th and Newton Streets, N.W. The Assistant Secretary presented to the Commission drawings, a model and site photographs of a two floor brick fire station, indicating that the proposal would have a white or light colored brick with red trim. Mr. Pavlick introduced the architect, Mr. David Condon, who indicated that the effort had been to design a simple building having some exterior design association with traditional fire stations. He said that bells, hose drying towers and flags had been used in the past, but only the flag location and the color scheme would be identifying architectural elements in this case. The Commission examined the proposed materials, urged caution in their selection, and expressed the desire to see the actual samples when chosen. The design was approved unanimously.

EXHIBIT C

3. CFA 9/20/79-1, Department of Transportation, Chain Bridge, redecking and railing replacement designs. The Assistant Secretary showed the Members drawings for an earlier scheme that had been disapproved to renovate and widen the bridge, as well as new drawings showing a scheme which accommodated the Commission's previous suggestions. The new scheme showed a "New Jersey" barricade on the downriver side, topped with a metal handrail. There would be a sidewalk only on the upriver side with an open handrail the same height as the opposite side. On the walk side would be some heavy wire mesh to prevent pedestrians from accidentally slipping through the rail. The Chairman greeted Mr. Siles of the Department and indicated an appreciation for closely following the Commission's suggestions. The Commission unanimously approved the revised design.

EXHIBIT D

C. Department of State

1. CFA 9/20/79-9, Chancery of Yemen, International Center, Van Ness and Connecticut Avenues, N.W., final design development, revised landscaping plan. The Assistant Secretary showed the Commission a revised site plan showing diminished paving and a single side

drive in compliance with the Commission's previous suggestions. The building plans had remained the same and were shown in a number of additional drawings. Mr. George Sealy of the Department of State indicated the Department's agreement with the new scheme and introduced Dr. Al-Hariri, the architect. Dr. Al-Hariri showed the Commission the stone samples and received the Commission's unanimous approval.

EXHIBIT E

D. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA 9/20/79-12, Grant Wood Medal. The Secretary presented revised designs for the memorial medal and introduced Mr. George Schafer of the Mint, who discussed the medal with the Commission. The Members unanimously recommended in favor of the reverse design portraying the artist's painting "American Gothic."

EXHIBIT F

2. CFA 9/20/79-13, Ira Eaker Medal. The Secretary presented designs for the memorial medal and introduced Mr. George Schafer again who discussed the medal with the Commission. The Members unanimously recommended that the two seals on the reverse side be relocated to the obverse side between General Eaker's name and the three stars indicating his rank at the top of the medal.

EXHIBIT G

E. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

1. CFA 9/20/79-10, U.S. Naval Observatory. Overlaying an existing perimeter road and development of a new driveway; Calvert and Observatory Circle. The Secretary and Mr. Carson showed slides of the site and drawings of the proposals especially noting the unsightly conditions on the east side of the complex facing the new Chancery of New Zealand and the British Embassy. Mr. Carson introduced Mr. Gerlach of the Navy to whom the Chairman said that the Commission had no objection to the design concept nor the landscape change, but were of the opinion that the guard house was too rustic and required more design study so as to be compatible with the main gate guardhouse on Massachusetts Avenue. The Commission also recommended that the Navy take steps to improve the landscaping along the perimeter of Observatory Circle opposite the Chancery Buildings.

EXHIBIT H

2. CFA 9/20/79-11, Southeast Federal Center, replace steam tunnel with overhead lines. Mr. Carson presented drawings and photographs of a proposed truss to carry overhead pipes between and over a group of buildings, just to the east of the historic Navy Yard complex on the southeast waterfront. He pointed out that the visibility of the pipes would be a problem from the M Street entrance to the city and from the historic-residential district to the north. Mr. Gerlach said that the tunnels were beyond repair and that service could not be interrupted. The Commission thought that the proposal was totally inappropriate and unanimously disapproved it.

EXHIBIT I

F. Office of Management and Budget, Legislation review

CFA 9/20/79-14, H.R. 3507. Review of draft report by Interior Department on H.R. 3507. To expand the boundaries of the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site to include certain historic buildings, including the Keith-Albee Building, the National Metropolitan Bank Building, Rhodes Tavern and the Old Ebbitt Grill. The Secretary indicated that the legislation could well have the effect of outright purchase or control of some or all of the buildings and that it could result in a new design solution for developer Oliver Carr's major project planned for that block including the preservation of all these buildings. The Commission had no objection to the proposal from a design or preservation point of view and voted unanimously to recommend in favor of the bill.

EXHIBIT J

G. Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission

CFA 9/20/79-16, FDR Memorial, Submission of revised design. The Secretary presented the newly revised designs of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. The design last approved by the Commission on March 2, 1978, and which provided the basis for the revised submission, was also presented for purposes of comparison.

He summarized the differences between the two, pointing out that the entire interpretive and support facilities and its major entrance court, had been eliminated, thus shortening the length of the memorial complex by nearly half the original length. The Tourmobile facilities were also omitted, as well as some of the pools and sculpture, the latter reduced in number by nearly one-third that of the approved scheme. Otherwise the basic design of the memorial remained unchanged. He then introduced Mr. Keogh, Chairman of the FDR Commission. Mr. Keogh then made a plea for Commission of Fine Arts approval and support of the design. The Commission examined the drawings and gave their unanimous approval. It was requested that models of the proposed sculptural elements be submitted for review at the appropriate time.

EXHIBIT K

H. District of Columbia Government Department of Housing and Community Development

1. Old Georgetown Act

a. OG 79-118, 2831 M Street, N.W. Proposed new office/retail/apartment building. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model showing a scheme previously disapproved and returned for further study. The building had a silhouette compatible with the residential architecture to the north of M Street and therefore fit in quite well at an important entrance location to Georgetown. The majority of the wall openings in the facades were traditionally scaled

and detailed, but these openings were placed in sharp contrast with major "post modern" decorative elements at the principal entrance on M Street and a minor entrance on 29th Street. These entrance motifs featured the partial introduction of classical columns and architraves in a non-traditional manner for the purpose of introducing interest and enlivening an otherwise conventional facade design. The Commission had previously recommended restudy with the possible elimination or simplification of some of the elements. The Georgetown Board and the staff had met with the architects several times in this effort and the modified design was presented with a mixed reaction from the Board to the Commission. Mr. Thomas Wright was present representing the Board and confessed that he had little sympathy with the type of design, and felt that it still needed additional simplification.

The architect, Mr. Guy Martin, indicated that his firm had studied the alternatives and come up with a recommendation which retained the essential elements of their original scheme with the addition of revised chimney, front window and side entrance designs. Mr. Roche stated that he found the design to be imaginative and done with skill and that it was a provocative and lively solution than some of the more conventional designs presented to the Commission.

b. OG 79-126. 3277 M Street. N.W. Proposed new residential/ retail building, revisions to approved design. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model of the schemes that had been approved, OG 78-113, and a subsequent scheme which had increased the real and apparent height of the project and been disapproved. The Staff and the Georgetown Board had met with the architect and the developer to resolve the problems. The scheme had been reduced in height and dormers and a "partial" mansard roof scheme had been applied to the dwellings in order to accommodate an additional floor. Mr. Wright told the Members that study had been given to the sidewalls and the width of the houses and some improvement over the original scheme had been achieved. He recommended approval on behalf of the Board. The Commission examined the materials and indicated their approval to the architect, Mr. Gitlin.

c. OG 79-132, 3222 M Street, N.W. Construct two bridges across the C&O Canal between Grace Street and M Street. Construct and landscape plaza areas at opening of stone wall. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings of the bridges indicating that the Commission had previously approved them conceptually and that the National Park Service had approved them to span the C&O Canal National Park. Mr. Lockman, the architect, was present and the Commission examined the designs for a simple girder bridge near the Wisconsin Avenue Bridge and a glazed two-level truss structure to the west. Mr. Wright told of the Board's recommendations to the architect for the simplest possible structures and their recommendation for approval of the drawings presented. The Commission unanimously approved the bridge designs.

d. OG 79-133 & -134, 1630 35th Street, N.W. To construct 140-160 new townhouses. The Assistant Secretary presented a number of drawings and a model of the design evolution for this large vacant site sold to the developer by the Convent of the Visitation. The project was represented by Mr. Alan Lockman, the architect, and Mr. Jim Donohoe, the developer. The Assistant Secretary reported that the applicants had originally presented a scheme with 160 houses to the Georgetown Board, which had recommended restudy of the site plan, with the recommendation that the residential units be rearranged to line up with the public thoroughfares in a more orderly arrangement, and with a minimum of curb cuts. After some restudy, the Board had felt the scheme was without merit and should be abandoned in favor of one with more unity, some public amenity, simple geometry, fewer curb cuts, and some type of public open space or focus. A number of meetings had occurred between the developer, the architect and the staff in efforts to resolve the matter. The Georgetown Board had indicated that they could not support the scheme without total restudy.

The Board had studied the site through inspection and slides taken by Mrs. Kohler, who had researched the site and an existing building. The site was bounded on three sides by large institutional facilities. On the 35th Street side it met the end of the typical 19th Century residential pattern of Georgetown. Both Reservoir Road and 35th Street were already carrying maximum traffic loads much of the day. The Community and the city government had recommended minimizing curb cuts, considering traffic directed to the streets and full compliance with the zoning regulations.

Prior to any agreement on the site plan the developer, architect, Georgetown Board and CFA Staff had agreed that treating the new development as an integral extension of Georgetown, protected from heavy traffic by perimeter walls and planting, was a legitimate technique for getting close to the number of legal units wanted by the project sponsors. The Board felt that to get a more conventional urban geometry would probably necessitate the elimination of some housing units.

The applicants agreed to restudy the site plan in these terms with staff assistance and review by one of the Board Members, Mr. Wright. The studies indicated that at least 130 houses could be placed on the site with a more simple geometry allowing for some open, public space. The developer agreed to reduce the project by about 20 units and the architect prepared a revised preliminary plan reviewed and approved by the Georgetown Board and presented to the Commission.

The Commission examined the plans and indicated a strong hope that the ensuing designs would emphasize more of a character typical of Georgetown residential blocks and avoid a walled rear-yard enclave facing toward Reservoir Road and 35th Street. The architect indicated that the street sides of the houses would be detailed to avoid a rear appearance. There was general concern that the design presented and the zoning regulations could result in a project that would be unsuitable to Georgetown, and the Chairman stated that any preliminary site plan approval would be given with the proviso that these concerns could be met.

e. OG 79-145, 1001 34th Street, N.W. Presentation of design development drawings for an apartment building and garage to be constructed on a vacant site. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model and slides showing the previous studies which had been approved by the Commission. Alan Lockman, the architect, and James Donohoe, the developer, were present to state that the project was in full compliance with the earlier scheme given preliminary approval: The presentation was for confirmation of this approval prior to preparation of working drawings. Mr. Wright said that the Board had examined the materials and recommended approval. The Members examined the drawings and model and indicated their approval on the basis of compliance with earlier recommendations. Working drawings, material samples and details would be submitted as available.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 79-82, 2309 Calvert Street, N.W. Sign for a commercial building. The Secretary presented photographs of the building and drawings, as well as a letter from the applicant. The proposal was for a gallery sign to be located on the third level of the building. Below were a restaurant and in the English basement a beauty shop. The Commission found the proposal unacceptable and recommended restudy of the entire facade, including the restaurant sign which had been erected without a building permit. The Secretary recommended a restudy of the sign back of the second floor clear glazed window opening into the gallery space itself. The Commission concurred.

b. S.L. 79-101, 2130 Cathedral Avenue, N.W. Proposed new residence on vacant site. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and drawings showing the proposal for a four level house to be built on a steep hillside, between existing houses across Cathedral Avenue from the Zoo. The proposal was for a contemporary style house. The adjacent houses were recently built traditionally styled houses. The architect, Jack Patrick, told the Commission of the unique constraints involved with the site and the special requirements of the client. An adjacent neighbor, Dr. Peters, indicated his hope that care would be taken with the grading near his terraces and retaining walls and that windows would not overlook his front yard pool. The Commission examined the materials and indicated that the house would be a reasonable infill building if proper brick color and landscaping were part of the project. The project was approved on that basis, with the request that landscaping plans and material samples be submitted for further review.

III. ADMINISTRATION (Continued)

F. Metrobus Shelter, Site Plans, Seventh Street, adjacent to the Hirshhorn Gallery and the Air and Space Museum, near Independence Avenue, S.W. The Secretary said that the Commission had once expressed a hope that locations on the Mall and/or adjacent to major public buildings would be avoided for potential metrobus shelter sites. He indicated that the proposed bus shelter next to the Hirshhorn was backed by landscaping and a service drive. The Members noted the proposed shelter next to the Hirshhorn Gallery was not on an axis or blocking a major vista of the Gallery, and that they would not object to it. Across the street, however, the shelter could block the views of the Otero sculpture. This, the Members felt, was worthy of further investigation. The Chairman asked the Secretary to check with the Air and Space staff and the Metro staff to see if a better solution could be worked out.

G. City Museum Project. The Chairman mentioned that an exhibit had been opened in the Old Patent Hall of the Portrait Gallery of old Washington photographs. He said that it was a very interesting exhibit and that the signs of activity of the Museum project were encouraging. The exhibit included reference to and a photograph of the Commission of Fine Arts as part of the developmental process of the city. The Chairman was authorized to draft a resolution in support of the City Museum project pending submission of further information from the supporters of the proposal.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton,
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 9, 1979

Dear Andy:

Just a note to confirm the Commission's actions on September 20, 1979:

* The fountain and waterfalls for the Pershing Park were far too complicated and were disapproved.

* The Kiosk for Western Plaza was approved.

* The temporary landscape scheme for the Canadian Chancery site was approved.

I am delighted to hear of your European trip. There are many good lessons to learn and the experience should be valuable to you in your work on Pennsylvania Avenue.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. W. Anderson Barnes
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Avenue
Development Corporation
Suite 1148
425 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

EXHIBIT B

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 9, 1979

Dear Mr. Pavlick:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved the New Municipal Building designs, 3rd and D Streets, N.W., (CFA 9/20/79 - 2) during its September 20 meeting. The Commission was pleased with the way the building conforms to existing site and profile constraints while developing an appropriate character of its own. The proposals for a unified paving material for ground floor and walks to the curbs and the use of limestone as facade material also has the Commission's approval.

One area of concern to the Commission was the landscaping as it related to the other buildings on Judiciary Square, particularly the Georgetown University structure on the opposite side of the square. Landscaping on both private and public spaces ought to be coordinated as a part of this project. The Commission and staff will be glad to assist at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Charles R. Pavlick
Architect-Engineer
Liaison Officer
Government of the District
of Columbia
Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

EXHIBIT C

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 9, 1979

Dear Mr. Pavlick:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved designs for Fire Station #11 at 14th and Newton Streets, N.W., (CFA 9/20/79 - 7), at its September 20, 1979 meeting.

The design reflects the care and the quality that is traditional in the best of Washington's firehouses. The Commission commends the architect.

We look forward to reviewing material samples at the appropriate time.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Charles R. Pavlick
Architect-Engineer
Liaison Officer
Government of the District
of Columbia
Department of General Services
613 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

EXHIBIT D

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI B. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 10, 1979

Dear Mr. Schneider:

The Commission approved the revised designs for the proposed alterations to Chain Bridge that were presented at its meeting on September 20, 1979.

One thing that we neglected to mention at the meeting was color. Since then, the staff has learned that the Bridge is to be painted in two colors, grey on the upper surface structure and green on the substructure.

I believe that all of us would recommend a single hue, preferably gray.

The other major crossings over the Potomac River to the District are now grey, so it would make sense to carry on the same scheme with Chain Bridge.

With best regards.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Douglas N. Schneider, Jr.
Director
Government of the District
of Columbia
Department of Transportation
Room 508
415 12th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

EXHIBIT E

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

PHILIP W. BUCHEN — FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY — KEVIN ROCHE
ELI S. JACOBS — EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 9, 1979

Dear Mr. Gookin:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved modified landscape designs and material samples for the Chancery of Yemen, at the International Center, at its September 20 meeting. As we told the architect, Dr. Al-Hariri, and Mr. George Sealy of the Department of State, the Commission appreciates the efforts made to follow the suggestions that the amount of paving be reduced. The changes, which make additional landscaping possible, should enhance the building and its setting and improve the overall Center development.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Richard Gookin
Assistant Chief of Protocol
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

EXHIBIT F

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI R. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

October 10, 1979

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

Dear Mrs. Hackel:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed additional designs for the Grant Wood medal at its September 20, 1979 meeting, and approved them. The Commission appreciates the effort to place "American Gothic" in its appropriate context as a painting.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mrs. Stella Hackel
Director of the Mint
501 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

EXHIBIT G

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 10, 1979

Dear Mrs. Hackel:

The Commission of Fine Arts met with Mr. Schaffer on September 20, 1979 to review designs for the Ira Eaker Medal. The Commission would like to see some revisions, in the interest of strengthening and dignifying the design.

The depiction of the "Flying Fortress" aircraft is a good strong design on its own and is only confused and weakened by cluttering the implied sky with official seals. Those elements would be better relocated to the obverse side and incorporated in the perimeter of the medal between General Eaker's name and the three stars.

We will be happy to review revisions at one of our next meetings on October 23, or December 4, 1979.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mrs. Stella Hackel
Director of the Mint
501 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

EXHIBIT H

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 10, 1979

Dear Mr. Lose:

The Commission of Fine Arts discussed designs for the new entrance gate on the western perimeter of the Naval Observatory during its September 20 meeting. There was no objection to the proposed location at Calvert Street and Observatory Circle, but we would recommend additional study on the design of the guard-house. The proposed design featured rustic wood shingles and was out of character with the Massachusetts Avenue entrance gates. Perhaps a design similar to the portable guard houses at the White House would be more consistent. The Commission will be meeting again on October 23, and December 4, 1979, at which times we would be happy to discuss alternatives.

Another matter which concerns the Commission is the poor condition of the landscaping on the east perimeter of the Navy complex. The view from the British Embassy and the new Chancery of New Zealand toward the Observatory grounds and the Vice President's residence is very unattractive. Not only is there inadequate planting, there also happens to be a World War II temporary building in full view of the New Zealand Chancery. We strongly urge that the Navy give some careful attention to this area. We will be happy to work with you to find a way to upgrade the appearance of this part of the circle.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert C. Lose
Director
Planning Division
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command
Building 57
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

EXHIBIT I

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 10, 1979

Dear Mr. Lose:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposals for overhead steam lines in the Southeast Federal Center, (CFA 9/20/79 - 11) at its September 20 meeting. The Members, though sympathetic with the problems involved, feel that the visual and historic importance of the site make even the best designed overhead system a potential eyesore.

Washington, including its military installations, is noted for its absence of all visible utilities. The Navy Yard and the adjoining Federal Center are in close proximity to the historic district of Capitol Hill and to important views of national symbols such as the Capitol dome. The view from the South Capitol Street bridge provides an important panorama of both the Capitol, the historic district and the Navy Yard itself. The proposed installation would be prominent in this view. The installation of an overhead steam line is in no way consistent with the special efforts being given to the Navy Yard Historic District, nor the expected federal employment center plans for the area.

We recommend that either the existing tunnel be repaired or a new parallel steam tunnel be constructed.

The Commission and its staff will assist in any way to find alternatives.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert C. Lose
Director
Planning Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Building 57, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

EXHIBIT J

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BUCHEN
VICTORINE DU PONT HOMSEY
ELI S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

September 21, 1979

Dear Mr. Martin:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on September 20, 1979, reviewed the Interior Department's draft report on H.R. 3507, a bill that would include the Keith-Albee Building, the Metropolitan Bank, Rhodes Tavern and the Ebbitt Grill in the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site.

As you may know, the Commission has been extensively involved in the development and preservation of some of the properties included in the legislation through the provisions of the Shipstead-Luce Act. As a result of our deliberations, we have strongly recommended the preservation of the façades of the Keith-Albee Building and the Metropolitan Bank Building.

As Interior's report points out, there is presently an understanding between the developer and the Mayor's office that those façades will be preserved if certain conditions are met, including some that will require legislative action by the City Council.

While we are encouraged that such an understanding has been reached, we also recognize the uncertainties in the matter, and would welcome the greater assurance in achieving our preservation goals that would be afforded by the H.R. 3507.

In addition, the Bill would also provide a greater opportunity to address the future of the Rhodes Tavern and the Old Ebbitt Grill, two structures which merit a more thorough study of their eventual role in the development plans than has been possible to date.

Both buildings have significant historical and cultural attributes that should be preserved if at all possible. At the present time, private efforts to find a solution are still uncertain, and the situation does not look encouraging.

The enactment of H.R. 3507 would provide the means to give the additional study these structures deserve.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Bernard H. Martin
Executive Office of the President
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

EXHIBIT K

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman
PHILIP W. BOURNE
VICTORIA DU POUE HOMSEY
LEE S. JACOBS
FREDERICK D. NICHOLS
KEVIN ROCHE
EDWARD D. STONE JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

October 10, 1979

Dear Mr. Keogh:

This is to confirm that the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved modified designs for the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial at its meeting on September 20, 1979. Though considerably reduced in size in comparison with the scheme originally approved by the Commission, the essential character of the public memorial area has been retained. The Members appreciated your assurances that the highest quality materials and sculptural work would be maintained.

In the event Congress authorizes the Memorial Commission to proceed with present plans, we would appreciate the opportunity to review the detailed working drawings prior to commencing with construction. As previously indicated, we also request that when more specific sculptural models have been chosen, they also be submitted for further review by the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Eugene J. Keogh
Chairman
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
Commission
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10017